

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-37 are pending, with claims 1 and 20 amended by way of the present Amendment.

In the Official Action, claims 1, 3-7, and 15-25 and 33-37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Davis et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,822,123, hereinafter Davis) in view of Yoshida (U.S. Patent No. 5,936,611, hereinafter Yoshida); and claims 8-14 and 26-32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Davis and Yoshida in view of Nsonwu et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,978,473, hereinafter Nsonwu).

Claims 1 and 20 are amended to more clearly describe and distinctly claim Applicant's invention. Support for this Amendment is found in Applicant's originally filed specification.¹ No new matter is added.

Briefly recapitulating, amended claim 1 is directed to

A method for implementing a help function in a digital television receiver provided with a plurality of buttons including a help button and cursor buttons, the method comprising the steps of:

displaying main help items including titles of external elements in the digital television receiver on a first area of a screen when a user pushes the help button;

indicating any one of the titles of the external elements with a cursor as the user manipulates the cursor buttons, and displaying a detailed configuration of the external element indicated by the cursor on a second area of the screen; and

displaying a help description of the indicated one on a third area of the screen without a separate key signal when the cursor indicates any one part of the configuration of the displayed element wherein the first to the third areas are displayed on the same screen.

¹ Specification Figures 1 and 6

Davis describes an electronic program schedule system. In operation modes of flip, browse, or menu, the system of Davis may provide a user with context sensitive pop-up hints. These hints appear either when the user explicitly asks for help or when the system detects that the user needs assistance through the user's inaction or keystroke error.² For example, if the user enters the listing by time menu screen 400 displayed in Figure 43a, which shows program listings for a single time period, and either "stalls" (remaining inactive for more than a predetermined amount of time), requests for help (by pressing the "help" key 50), or presses an improper key, the system displays a hint 402 like that shown in Figure 43a, instructing the user how to highlight another program.³ In one embodiment, each hint is displayed at one time. In an alternative embodiment, subsequent hints may be added to the hint or hints already displayed on the screen so the user is made aware of all of the different available options at the same time.⁴

However, contrary to the Official Action, Davis does not disclose or suggest displaying main help items on a first area of a screen when the user pushes the help button and displaying a help description on another area of the screen without a separate key signal when a cursor indicates a part of a configuration. That is, while Davis may display a help item in response to pushing the help button, Davis does not go on to display a help description separate from the main help items in another area of the screen.

Furthermore, as acknowledged by the Official Action, Davis does not disclose or suggest indicating any one of the titles with a cursor as a user manipulates cursor buttons and displaying

² Davis column 34, lines 57-64

³ Davis column 34, lines 7-15

⁴ Davis column 34, lines 32-37

a detailed configuration on a second area of the screen. To cure this deficiency, the official Action applies Yoshida.

Yoshida describes an on screen displaying apparatus that displays a remote control hand unit. Figure 4 of Yoshida is an example of a main screen for setting various functions of an image display apparatus with remote control functions. If a menu key 31 on the remote control hand unit is pressed, a mode is changed over to a help mode. Various names of help functions are then displayed. Figure 4 further shows the screen on which "picture" is selected (highlighted). A user may navigate with left to right arrow keys through various options. However, both Davis and Yoshida fail to disclose or suggest Applicant's claimed step of simultaneously displaying a first, second, and third area of a screen. By displaying a detailed configuration of an external element indicated by the cursor and then displaying a detailed help description, a user of Applicant's claimed invention can both see a detailed configuration and read corresponding instructions. Such features are not available either individually or in combination via the disclosures of Davis and Yoshida.

Amended claim 20 is directed to

A method for implementing a help function in a digital television receiver provided with a plurality of buttons including a help button and cursor

buttons, the method comprising the steps of:

displaying main help items including titles of external elements in the digital television receiver on a first area of a screen when a user pushes the help button; and

displaying a help description of the indicated one on a second area of the screen without a separate key signal when the cursor indicates any one of the titles of the external element wherein the first and second areas are displayed on the same screen.

For reasons similar to those presented above and those relative to claim 1, Applicant submits that both Davis and Yoshida, individually or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest simultaneously displaying Applicant's first and second area of a screen.

As none of the cited art, individually or in combination, discloses or suggests at least the above-noted features of independent claims 1 and 20, Applicant submits the inventions defined by claims 1 and 20, and all claims depending therefrom, are not rendered obvious by the asserted references for at least the reasons stated above.⁵

⁵ MPEP § 2142 "...the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest **all** the claim limitations.

Conclusion

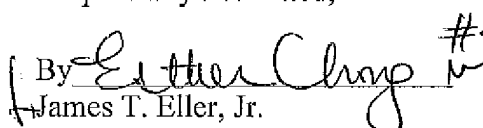
In view of the above remarks, it is believed that claims are allowable.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Michael E. Monaco, Reg. No. 52,041, at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

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